

The Hongkong Telegraph.

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號七初月二十年四十三緒光

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1908.

二拜禮 號九十月二十年十英港香

\$30 PER ANNUM.
SINGLE COPY, 10 CENTS.

Banks.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL.....\$15,000,000
RESERVE FUNDS.....
Sterling £1,500,000 at 1/16=\$15,000,000
Silver \$14,000,000
RESERVE LIABILITY OF PROPRIETORS \$15,000,000

COURT OF DIRECTORS:
R. Shallice, Esq.—Chairman.
Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson—Deputy Chairman.
E. G. Barrett, Esq.
G. F. Frieland, Esq.
G. S. Gubbay, Esq.
W. Helms, Esq.
C. R. Leemann, Esq.
R. Shaw, Esq.
Hon. Mr. H. A. W. Slade.
H. E. Tomkins, Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER:
Hongkong—J. R. M. SMITH.
MANAGER:
Shanghai—W. ADAMS ORAM.
LONDON BANKERS—LONDON AND COUNTY BANKING COMPANY, LIMITED.
HONGKONG—INTEREST ALLOWED:
On Current Account at the rate of 2 per Cent. per Annum on the daily balance.

ON FIXED DEPOSITS:
For 1 month, 2 1/2 per Cent. per Annum.
For 6 months, 3 per Cent. per Annum.
For 12 months, 4 per Cent. per Annum.
J. R. M. SMITH,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 15th October, 1908. [14]

INTERNATIONAL BANKING CORPORATION.

CAPITAL PAID UP.....GOLD \$3,250,000
ABOUT MEX \$7,222,222
RESERVE FUND.....GOLD \$3,250,000
ABOUT MEX \$7,222,222

HEAD OFFICE:
60 WALL STREET, NEW YORK.

LONDON OFFICE:
THREADNEEDLE HOUSE, E.O.

LONDON BANKERS:
BANK OF ENGLAND.
NATIONAL PROVINCIAL BANK OF ENGLAND, LIMITED.

THE CAPITAL AND COUNTIES BANK, LTD.

BRANCHES AND AGENTS ALL OVER THE WORLD.

THE Corporation transacts every Description of Banking and Exchange Business, receives Money in Current Account at the rate of 2 per Cent. on daily balances and accepts Fixed Deposits at the following rates:
For 12 months 4 per Cent. per annum.
" 6 " 3 1/2 " " "
" 3 " 3 " " "

No. 9, Queen's Road Central, Hongkong.

W. M. ANDERSON,
Manager.
Hongkong, 8th April, 1908. [15]

THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA AND CHINA.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER, 1853.
HEAD OFFICE—LONDON

PAID-UP CAPITAL.....£1,000,000
RESERVE FUND.....£1,500,000
RESERVE LIABILITIES OF PROPRIETORS.....£1,000,000

INTEREST ALLOWED ON CURRENT ACCOUNT at the rate of 1 per Cent. per annum on the daily balance.
On Fixed Deposits for 12 months, 4 per Cent. " 6 " 3 1/2 " " " 3 " 3 " " "

JOHN ARMSTRONG,
Manager.
Hongkong, 15th May, 1908. [19]

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JOHN ARMSTRONG,
Manager.
Hongkong, 15th May, 1908. [19]

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RESERVE LIABILITIES OF PROPRIETORS.....£1,000,000

INTEREST ALLOWED ON CURRENT ACCOUNT at the rate of 1 per Cent. per annum on the daily balance.
On Fixed Deposits for 12 months, 4 per Cent. " 6 " 3 1/2 " " " 3 " 3 " " "

JOHN ARMSTRONG,
Manager.
Hongkong, 15th May, 1908. [19]

Banks.

YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LIMITED.

CAPITAL PAID-UP.....Yen 24,000,000
RESERVE FUNDS.....15,000,000

Head Office—YOKOHAMA.

Branches and Agencies:
TOKIO, CHEFOO, TIENSIN, KOBE, NAGASAKI, NEWYUWANG, LONDON, DALNY, PORT ARTHUR, LYONS, SAN FRANCISCO, HONOLULU, HONGKONG, SHANGHAI, HANKOW.

HONGKONG—INTEREST ALLOWED:
On Current Account at the rate of 2 per Cent. per Annum on the daily balance.

On fixed deposit:
For 12 months.....5 1/2 per Cent.
" 6 ".....4 1/2 " "
" 3 ".....3 1/2 " "

TAKAO TAKAMICHI,
Manager.
Hongkong, 15th September, 1908. [13]

HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

THE Business of the above Bank is conducted by the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION. Rules may be obtained on application.

INTEREST on deposits is allowed at 3 per Cent. per annum.

Depositors may transfer at their option balances of \$100 or more to the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK to be placed on FIXED DEPOSIT at 4 per Cent. per annum.

For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION,
J. R. M. SMITH,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 12th January, 1907. [18]

DEUTSCH ASIATISCHE BANK.

CAPITAL FULLY PAID-UP.....Sh. Tael 7,500,000

HEAD OFFICE—SHANGHAI.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS: BERLIN.

BRANCHES:
Berlin, Calcutta, Hamburg, Hankow, Kobe, Peking, Singapore, Tientsin, Tsingtau, Yokohama.

FOUNDED BY THE FOLLOWING BANKS AND BANKERS:

Königliche Seehandlung (Preussische Staatsbank),
Direktion der Disconto-Gesellschaft,
Deutsche Bank,
S. Bleichroeder,
Berliner Handels-Gesellschaft,
Bank für Handel und Industrie,
Robert Warshawsky & Co.,
Mendelssohn & Co.,
M. A. von Rothschild & Soehne, Frankfurt,
Jacob S. H. Stern,
Norddeutsche Bank in Hamburg, Hamburg,
Sal. Oppenheim Jr. & Co., Köln,
Bayerische Hypothek und Wechselbank, München.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON CURRENT ACCOUNT.
DEPOSITS received on terms which may be learned on application. Every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

A. KOHN,
Manager.
Hongkong, 4th December, 1907. [19]

THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA AND CHINA.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER, 1853.
HEAD OFFICE—LONDON

PAID-UP CAPITAL.....£1,000,000
RESERVE FUND.....£1,500,000
RESERVE LIABILITIES OF PROPRIETORS.....£1,000,000

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JOHN ARMSTRONG,
Manager.
Hongkong, 15th May, 1908. [19]

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Hongkong, 15th May, 1908. [19]

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Hongkong, 15th May, 1908. [19]

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JOHN ARMSTRONG,
Manager.
Hongkong, 15th May, 1908. [19]

Mails.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL ON	REMARKS
LONDON and ANTWERP VIA SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, PORT SAID and MARSEILLES	SICILIA	30th Dec.	Freight and Passage.
SHANGHAI, MOJI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA	NYANZA	About 2nd Jan.	Freight and Passage.
SHANGHAI	DELHI	About 8th Jan.	Freight and Passage.
LONDON, &c., via usual Ports	ASSAYE	Noon, 9th Jan.	See Special Advertisement.

For Further Particulars, apply to
E. A. HEWETT,
Superintendent.

Hongkong, 28th December, 1908. [7]

Intimations.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

TELEPHONE 91.

JUST RECEIVED

AXMINSTER PARQUET CARPETS.

Woven in one piece without seam.
Exclusive Designs.
SUITABLE FOR DRAWING AND DINING ROOMS.

AXMINSTER, WILTON & BRUSSELS CARPETS.

Select Patterns. Made any size.

KENSINGTON ART CARPETS.

In various sizes. Artistic Designs.

WINTER CURTAINS.

New Designs & Art Shades.

INSPECTION INVITED.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

Champagnes, Sherries, Marsalas, Madeiras, Ports, Clarets, Burgundies, Vermouths, Bitters, Liqueurs, Ales, Beers and Stouts.



Telephone No. 75.
CALDBECK, MACGREGOR & CO.,
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,
15, Queen's Road Central.
Hongkong, 11th December, 1908. [140]

Hotels.

HOTEL PLEASANTON,

No. 17, Water Street, Yokohama.

FIRST CLASS PRIVATE HOTEL—Newly Opened and Furnished Suites or Single Rooms, Private Baths, Modern Sanitary Fittings, Electric Light, Up-to-date Appointments, Renowned Cuisine, Dark Room for Photographers. Charges Moderate.

HENRY LUTZ,
MANAGER.
Hongkong, 15th July, 1908. [149]

HOTEL CRAIGIEBURN,

PLUNKET'S GAP, THE PRINCE, near the TRAM TERMINUS Tel. 55.

For Terms, &c., apply to the

MANAGER.
Hongkong, 2nd July, 1908. [17]

Shipping—Steamers.

HONGKONG, CANTON, MACAO

AND

WEST RIVER STEAMERS.

JOINT SERVICE OF

THE HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD., AND
THE CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD.

HONGKONG-CANTON LINE.

S.S. "HONAM" 2,365 Tons, "FATSHAN" 2,250 Tons, "KINSHAN" 1,995 Tons, "HEUNGSHAN" 1,995 Tons.

Departures from HONGKONG to CANTON daily at 8 A.M. (Sunday excepted), 10 P.M. (Saturday excepted).
Departures from CANTON to HONGKONG daily at 8 A.M. and 5.30 P.M. (Sunday excepted).
These Steamers, carrying His Majesty's Mails, are the largest and fastest on the River. Special attention is drawn to their Superior Saloon and Cabin Accommodation.

SERVICE OF THE HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD.,

HONGKONG-MACAO LINE.

S.S. "SUI-TAI" 1,265 Tons and "SUI-AN" 1,265 Tons.

Departures from Hongkong to Macao on week days at 8 A.M. from the Company's Wing Lok Street Wharf and at 2 P.M. from the Company's Wharf.

CHANGE OF WHARF.

Commencing on and after the 1st January next, both Macao Steamers will use the WING LOK WHARF.

CANTON-MACAO LINE.

S.S. "HOI SANG."

Departures from MACAO to CANTON on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, at 9 P.M.
Departures from CANTON to MACAO on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, at 5 P.M.

JOINT SERVICE OF

HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD.,
THE CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD., AND THE INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD.

CANTON-WUCHOW LINE.

S.S. "SAINAM" 588 Tons, and "NANNING" 569 Tons.

One of the above steamers leaves Canton for Wuchow every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, at about 8 A.M., and the other leaves Wuchow for Canton on the same days at 8.30 A.M. Round trips take about 5 days. These vessels have Superior Cabin Accommodation and are lighted throughout by electricity.

EXCURSION TO MACAO.

On SUNDAY, 3rd January.

S.S. "SUI-AN"

will depart from the COMPANY'S WING LOK STREET WHARF, at 9 A.M.
Departure from Macao at 5 P.M.

Popular Excursion Rates as usual.

Machado's String Band will play selections of Music during the trip.
M.B.—The Company also runs a steamer from Macao on Sunday morning at 7.30 A.M. and from Hongkong at 1 P.M. from the Company's Wing Lok Street Wharf.

Further particulars may be obtained at the Office of the—

HONGKONG, CANTON & MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LD.,

HOTEL MANSIONS, (FIRST FLOOR),
opposite the Hongkong Hotel. [16]

Hotels.

HONGKONG HOTEL.

FIRST CLASS AND UP-TO-DATE.

Military Band during dinner on Saturday Nights.

A. F. DAVIES,
Manager.
Hongkong, 21st June, 1907. [15]

FOR

LUXURY AND COMFORT,
FRESHNESS AND EXCELLENT
CUISINE,

STAY AT—

THE GRAND CARLTON HOTEL.

Hongkong, 5th December, 1908. [170]

ASTOR HOUSE,

(LATE CONNAUGHT HOTEL),

QUEEN'S ROAD, HONGKONG.

CENTRALLY situated, up-to-date Hotel. Recently renovated, and under entirely new management. Large and comfortable Rooms, Excellent Cuisine and separate Tables, Hot and Cold Baths, Electric Light throughout. Terms moderate. First Class accommodation for Families and Tourists.

Under Personal Supervision of:
L. GAMEAU, Proprietor.
N. BLUMENTHAL, Manager.

Telephone, 170. Telegrams "Astor." [168]

Mails.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD,

BREMEN.

IMPERIAL GERMAN MAIL LINES.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
NAPLES, GENOA, ALGIERS, GIBRALTAR, SOUTHAMPTON, ANTWERP and HAMBURG	"BURLOW" Capt. H. Formes	WEDNESDAY, Noon, 30th December.
KUDAT and SANDAKAN	"BORNEO" Capt. F. Sembill	THURSDAY, 8 A.M., 31st December.
MANILA, NEW GUINEA, BRISBANE, SYDNEY & MELBOURNE	"PRINZ WALDEMAR" Capt. F. Iscke	THURSDAY, 5 P.M., 31st December.
SHANGHAI, TSINGTAU, NAGASAKI, KOBE and YOKOHAMA	"PRINZ EITEL FRIEDRICH" Capt. E. Malchow	About THURSDAY, 31st December.

For further Particulars, apply to

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

MELCHERS & CO.,

GENERAL AGENTS, HONGKONG & CHINA.

Hongkong, 28th December, 1908.

[8]

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

FRENCH MAIL LINES.

FORTNIGHTLY SERVICE TO and FROM EUROPE via SUEZ CANAL.
TO and FROM JAPAN via SHANGHAI.

FOR	STEAMERS	CAPTAINS	TO SAIL ON
SHANGHAI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA, SYDNEY	"REBULAT"	Ernest Simons	4th Jan./09, P.M.
MARSEILLES, VIA PORTS	"ERNEST SIMONS"	Girard	15th Jan./09, at 1 P.M.
SHANGHAI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA	"POLYNESIE"	Broc	18th Jan., P.M.
MARSEILLES, VIA PORTS	"TOKIN"	Charbonnel	19th Jan., at 1 P.M.

Transshipment on the Co's Steamers at Singapore for Batavia; at Colombo for Calcutta, Bombay and Australia; at Port Said for the Levant, Constantinople and Black Sea.

Three tickets to London via Paris from £7.10 up to £71.10. 20 hours' railway from Marseilles to London.

Interpreters meet passengers at their arrival in Marseilles.

For further particulars, apply to

P. NALIN,

ACTING AGENT,

QUEEN'S BUILDINGS.

Hongkong, 24th December, 1908.

[14]

JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LIJN.

REGULAR THREE-WEEKLY SERVICE BETWEEN

JAVA, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

Steamer	From	Expected on or about	Will leave for	On or about
TJIPANAS	SHANGHAI	2nd half Dec.	JAVA	2nd half Dec.
TJIMAHU	JAVA	1st half Jan.	SHANGHAI	1st half Jan.
TJILIWONG	JAPAN	1st half Jan.	JAVA	1st half Jan.
TJIKINI	JAVA	2nd half Jan.	JAPAN	2nd half Jan.
TJILATJAP	JAVA	1st half Feb.	SHANGHAI	1st half Feb.
TJIBODAS	JAVA	—	JAPAN	—

The Steamers are all fitted throughout with Electric Light and have Accommodation for a limited number of Saloon Passengers, and will take Cargo to all Netherland India Ports on through Bills of Lading.

For Particulars of Freight and Passage, apply to

JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LIJN.

Telephone No. 375;

YORK BUILDINGS, 1st floor,

Hongkong, 14th December, 1908.

[16]

WEST RIVER BRITISH STEAMSHIP COMPANIES.

HONGKONG-WUOHOW LINE.

THE Steamers "LINTAN" and "SAN-UL" sail from HONGKONG TWICE A WEEK AND COMPLETE THE ROUND TRIP IN A DAY. These steamers have Excellent Saloon Accommodation, and are Lighted Throughout by Electricity. THE CLIMATE ON THE WEST RIVER DURING THE WINTER MONTHS IS VERY FINE AND EXHILIRATING.

For further information apply to—

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,

AGENTS, WEST RIVER BRITISH S.S. COMPANIES

Shanghai, 19th March, 1909.

[9]

Intimation.

THE YOKOHAMA DOCK CO., LTD.

No. 1 DOCK.

Length inside 514 ft. Width of entrance, top 95 ft.; bottom 75 ft. Water on blocks, 27.5 ft. Time to pump out, 4 hours.

No. 2 DOCK.

Length inside, 375 ft. Width of entrance, top 60.5 ft. bottom 45.8 ft. Water on blocks, 26.5 ft. Time to pump out, 3 hours.

THESE DOCKS are conveniently situated in Yokohama harbour and the attention of Captains and Engineers is respectfully called to the advantages offered for Docking and repairing Vessels and Machinery of every description.

The plant and tools are of recent pattern for dealing quickly and cheaply with work and a large stock of material is always at hand, (plates and angles all being tested by Lloyd's surveyors).

Two powerful Twin Screw Tugs are available for taking Vessels in or out of Dock, and for taking Sailing Vessels in or out of the bay. The floating derrick is capable of lifting 35 tons.

Steam Launches of Steel or Wood, Lighters, Steel Buildings and Roofs, Bridge Work, and all kinds of Machinery are made on the premises.

Tenders will be made up when required and the workmanship and material will be guaranteed.

The cost of Docking, and repair work, will be found to compare favourably with that of any port in the world.

Telephone: Nos. 376, 506, or 681.

Telegrams: "Dock, Yokohama," Codes A. B. C. 4th and 5th Edt.

Liebers, Bootts, A. 1, and Watkins.

Yokohama, May 23rd, 1905.

[39]

Shipping—Steamers.

MESSAGERIES CANTONNAISES.

FRENCH LINE OF STEAMERS BETWEEN HONGKONG, CANTON AND KOUANG-SI.

S.S. "PAUL BEAU," 1,900 tons, 14 knots.

S.S. "CHARLES HARDOUIN," 1,900 tons, 14 knots

The speediest, most luxuriously appointed and punctual steamers on the line. Departure from Hongkong, 14.10 P.M. (Saturdays excepted). Departure from Canton at 5.15 P.M. (Sundays excepted).

These super-steamers carrying the French Mail are fitted throughout with Electric Light and Fans and were specially built for this trade. Excellent cuisine.

The Company's Own Wharf near Wing Lok Street and its berth in Canton opposite Shamoon.

For further particulars, please apply to the COMPANY'S OFFICE at Shamoon, Canton, or to their Agents

BARRETT & CO., Hongkong.

Hongkong, 9th October, 1908.

[42]

Intimations.



TONIC, RESTORATIVE, DIGESTIVE WINE

Very palatable.

Known throughout the world and prescribed in all cases of Anemia, Debility and Convalescence, to young women, children and the aged. Invaluable in hot climates.

DOSE: One wine-glass after the two principal meals.

Each bottle of genuine VIN SAINT-RAPHAEL bears, in addition to the registered trade-mark:

(1) THE WARRANTY STAMP OF THE UNION DES FABRICANTS.

(2) A METAL SEAL ADVERTISING CLETEAS.

CLETEAS is a MELISSA and MINT cordial which surpasses all others by its purity and faultless preparation. To be taken on a lump of sugar.

COMPAGNIE DU VIN SAINT-RAPHAEL, Valence (Drôme-France).

CALDERON MAQUERON & Co., Hongkong.

AN APPEAL.

THE SUPERIORESS of the ITALIAN CONVENT, GAINES ROAD, begs most respectfully to APPEAL to the Residents of Hongkong and the Coast Ports for their kind patronage and support, and desires to state that she will be pleased to receive orders for all kinds of NEEDLE WORK.

Gentlemen's Shirts made to order, and Cuffs and Collars renewed on old ones.

Ladies and Children's Under-clothing, Children's Dresses, and all kinds of Embroidery. Materials can be supplied, if required.

The Superiores will also be most grateful for any PAPER, or old ENVELOPES to be made into Books for the Children of the Poor Schools who are taught by the Sisters.

Hongkong, 22nd April, 1902

[62]

Dentistry.

TSIN TING.

LATEST METHODS OF DENTISTRY.

STUDIO AT NO. 14, D'AGUILAR STREET.

REASONABLE FEE

Consultation Free.

Hongkong, 20th June, 1904.

[60]

Dr. M. H. CHAUN,

THE LATEST METHOD

of the

AMERICAN SYSTEM OF DENTISTRY

31, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,

From the University of Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

Hongkong, 16th April, 1901

[11]

POWER STANDARD ONCE AGAIN.

PEERS PROFESS ALARM AT STATE OF THE NAVY.

Noble lords who on Monday (Nov. 23) came together to hear Lord Roberts and others tell tales about impending invasion and demand an army of a million men were yesterday asked to consider the question of the navy. On Monday when the cry was that a big army was essential we were told that naval supremacy was not a guarantee of safety—yesterday naval supremacy was the thing. Lord Cawdor began the debate, and indulged in many edifying allusions to the fact that the condition of the navy is a subject outside party politics—a claim that will provoke a smile from those who listen to Unionist speakers in the country. Then he went on to say that six or seven first-class battleships must be completed by the end of 1911, and a similar number by the end of 1912 if we are to maintain our supremacy. While, however, he admitted that battleship construction was the biggest item in naval expenditure, and while battleships chiefly impressed the man in the street, there were many other things to be considered—from destroyers to docks. Then came the inevitable complaint about Lord Tweedmouth having alluded in March last to 15 destroyers of 33 knot speed being in hand, and it being now said that the speed is to be 27 knots. If a mistake had been made, why had that mistake not been corrected until a day or two ago?

SAFE NORTH SEA BASE.

Lord Cawdor heard depressing rumours about stores being insufficient, but he hoped for the best, though his tone suggested that he feared the worst. He was also depressed about docks where was our safe base in the North Sea, a place not only for repairs, but a place of which the fleet could retire at night to escape from the attacks of 30 or 40 destroyers? In this respect we are not half so well off as Germany, and as we live in exceptional times when foreign countries have exceptional programs, we must take exceptional steps. "Take the public into your confidence," said Lord Cawdor; "tell them exactly what is going to be done—two or three ships laid down speedily would be far more effective than a great many words. Such a step would steady foreign opinion; it would show other nations that here all parties stand side by side on this question, believing that there is no greater safeguard of the peace of the world than the supremacy of the British navy."

ALLAYING LORD CAWDOR'S FEARS.

Lord Grand, the Master of the Horse, then replied for the Government, and welcomed these assurances that the navy was not a party question, and that we wanted a strong navy, not for aggressive, but for defensive purposes. He assured the Houses that the Government had no intention to stint the supply of vessels, and we were keeping up to the standard that had been promised. But it was well if possible not to be too quick in laying down vessels, as every month showed some improvement, and it was desirable to turn out the ship as nearly perfect and up to date as possible when they were completed. With regard to stores, Lord Cawdor's fears were quite unfounded—they were kept in good condition and the quantity was sufficient.

SPEED OF DESTROYERS.

In regard to destroyers, he declared that the allusion to 16 of a 33 knot speed was an unfortunate mistake. The intention had always been to have them of 27 knots, and he could assure the House that boats of this size (of 900 tons), of what is called the River class, compare favourably with those of a higher speed. One has to consider—going qualities, range of action, and durability, and the Admiralty are quite satisfied with this new River class type. Moreover, nobody knows the conditions under which the alleged greater speed has been obtained with foreign destroyers.

In regard to docks, there is room at Sheerness for several Dreadnoughts, and plenty of accommodation on the south coast, while Rosyth is being pushed on, and a bonus given to the contractor to expedite the work. Lord Grand wound up by declaring that it was the firm intention of the Government to carry out its policy of keeping our fleet equal to any likely combination of any other two Powers, plus 10 per cent, in our favour. In this matter the whole Government agreed with Sir Edward Grey that "there is no halfway house between safety and danger."

LORD LOCHES' MAIDEN SPEECH.

Lord Loches (better known in the House of Commons as Mr. Edmund Robertson) was listened to with considerable interest. This was his maiden speech in the House of Lords, and he added a deal of information to that which noble lords already possessed on naval questions. He was armed with facts and figures, and spoke with convincing clearness as to the real position of affairs. He showed that the two Power standard is being well maintained at the present moment, and that the existing program is sufficient to maintain the standard for the time being.

The discussion was continued by Lord Eversley, Lord Brassey, Lord Middleton, and others.

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

In Casks of 375 lbs. net \$5.50 per Cask ex Factory.

In Bags of 50 lbs. net \$3.45 per Bag ex Factory

SHEWAN TOMES & Co., General Managers

Hongkong, 15th August, 1904

WEATHER FORECAST AND STORM WARNINGS ISSUED FROM THE HONGKONG OBSERVATORY.

METEOROLOGICAL SIGNALS.

Meteorological signals are hoisted on the mast in front of the Water Police Station at Tsim Sha Tsui for the information of masters of vessels leaving the port. They do not necessarily imply that bad weather is expected here:—

Signal No.

1. A CONE point upwards indicates a Typhoon to the North of the Colony.
2. A CONE point upwards and a drum below indicates a Typhoon to the North-East of the Colony.
3. A DRUM indicates a Typhoon to the East of the Colony.
4. A CONE point downwards and a drum below indicates a Typhoon to the South-East of the Colony.
5. A CONE point downwards indicates a Typhoon to the South of the Colony.
6. A CONE point downwards and a ball below indicates a Typhoon to the South-West of the Colony.
7. A BALL indicates a Typhoon to the West of the Colony.
8. A CONE point upwards and a ball below indicates a Typhoon to the North-West of the Colony.

Red Signals indicate that the centre is believed to be more than 300 miles away from the Colony.

Black Signal indicate that the centre is believed to be less than 300 miles away from the Colony.

The above signals will, as heretofore, be hoisted only when typhoons exist in such positions or are moving in such directions that information regarding them is considered to be of importance to the Colony or to shipping leaving the harbour.

These signals are repeated at the Harbour Office, H.M.S. Tamar, Green Island Signal Mast, and the Flagstaff on the premises of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company at Kowloon.

URGENT SIGNAL.

In addition to the above, when it is expected that the wind may increase to full typhoon force at any moment, the following Urgent Signal will be made at the Water Police Station, and repeated at the Harbour Office:—

THREE EXPLOSIVE BOMBS, AT INTERVALS OF TEN SECONDS.

A Black Cross will be hoisted at the same time, superior to the other shapes.

NIGHT SIGNALS.

The following Night Signals will be exhibited from the Flagstaff on the roof of the Water Police Station at Kowloon, the Harbour Office Flagstaff, and H.M.S. Tamar.

I. Three Lights Vertical, Green Green Green, indicates that a typhoon is believed to be situated more than 300 miles from the Colony.

II. Three Lights Vertical, Green Red Green, indicates that a typhoon is believed to be situated less than 300 miles from the Colony.

III. Three Lights Vertical, Red Green Red, indicates that the wind may be expected to increase to full typhoon force at any moment.

No. III. Signal will be accompanied by the Explosive Bombs, as above, in the event of the information conveyed by this signal being first published by night.

These Night Signals will be substituted the Day Signals at sunset, and will, when necessary, be altered during the night.

SUPPLEMENTARY WARNINGS.

For the benefit of Native Craft and passing Ocean Vessels, a Cone will be exhibited at each of the following stations during the time that any of the above Day Signals are hoisted in the Harbour.

Gap Rock.	Aberdeen.
Waglan.	San Ki Wan.
Stanley.	Sai Kung.
Cape Collinson.	Sha Tau Kok.
	Tai Po.

This will indicate that there is a depression somewhere in the China Sea, and that a Storm Warning is hoisted in the Harbour.

Further details can always be given to Ocean Vessels, on demand, by signal from the Light-houses.

F. G. Yates, Director.

16th Jan. 1909.

Intimation.

A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

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ARTICLES

VERY SUITABLE FOR PRESENTS

HANDSOME TOILET SETS, SILVER
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REQUISITES

A Very Fine Selection in Great Variety—
MEERSCHAUM and BRIAR PIPES,
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SMOKERS' COMPANIONS,
MEERSCHAUM and AMBER CIGAR
and CIGARETTE HOLDERS, CIGAR
and CIGARETTE CASES in real CRO-
CODILE SKIN, SNAKE SKIN, &c.
TOBACCO POUCHES in BEAVER,
CROCODILE, SNAKE and DOG SKIN,
&c. TOBACCO BOXES and JARS,
ASH TRAYS.All these Goods are of the Highest Class and
Specially Selected.SUITABLE FOR
XMAS and NEW YEAR

PRESENTS.

THERMOS FLASKS

A most useful XMAS PRESENT for
SPORTSMEN, YACHTSMEN and
TOURISTS.A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED.

ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS

AND

KOWLOON DISPENSARY.

Hankow, 19th December, 1908.

NOTICE

All communications intended for publication in
"THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" should be
addressed to The Editor, 1, Lee House Road, and
should be accompanied by the Writer's Name and
Address.Ordinary business communications should be addressed
to The Manager.
The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for
any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution.

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is 80 cents per quarter.

Single Copies, Daily, ten cents; Weekly, twenty-

five cents.

BIRTH.

On December 23, 1908, at Shanghai, the wife

of RICHARD POLAK, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

On December 23, 1908, at Shanghai, JAMES

HAY ARNOTT to ELIZA ERSKINE PORTER-

FIELD, daughter of William Porterfield,

contractor, Glasgow.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1908.

PLAQUE RAYS IN SHANGHAI.

Last week our Shanghai correspondent
cabled the discovery by the ever vigilant
Health Department of plague-infected rats
in Shanghai. Referring to the threatened
invasion of the plague virus in the Settle-
ment, the *Mercury* writer editorially:—We
have so long escaped while our friends have
suffered that it has almost seemed as if
there were some peculiarity in our position to
safeguard us. Either our soil was unsuitable
to the germ which thrives so well elsewhere, or
there was too much moisture mixed with it, or
one thing, or another. Nobody expected that
we should be able by regulation to keep the
danger at arm's length. And now it would seem
we have it in our midst. Rats are dying in the
neighbourhood of the wharves whence un-
doubtedly they have been infected by
imported sufferers, and one human case
up-river appears to have been contracted
in Shanghai. That is roughly all that
the Municipal minutes tell us, except that
means are to be taken at once to secure the
destruction of all the rats that can be laid
hold of. We need hardly say that the Coun-
cil in this matter deserves, and will have,
all the support and assistance which reason-able people in the community can give. What-
ever may be required in the matter of combi-
ng should be done at once, and it is to be
remembered that combination in
pursuit of so wily a foe as the rat is ab-
solutely necessary if complete success is to
be achieved. It would be quite useless, for
example, for one property to be cleared if
the surrounding properties were permitted to
allow their premises to continue to serve as
breeding centres. As we have said, reason-
able people will see the necessity for com-
bined action. The unreasonable should be
coerced, and that this may be possible the
Councils of the various powers should let
their nationals know that whatever measures
may be considered necessary by the Health
Department will be strictly enforced. For
the moment there is no need for alarm. But
there is need for action so that alarm may
be prevented and the threatened danger
thrust aside.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

A JAPANESE newspaper in Seoul has been sup-
pressed.THE Herald Square Theatre in New York has
been burnt.THE Custom House at Moji was totally de-
stroyed by fire on the 23rd inst.THE expedition against the aborigines in revolt
in North Formosa continues to be successful.We are requested to state that Mrs. May will
distribute the prizes to the girls of the Delia
Public School at 3 p.m. to-morrow.Titi Hon, Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and
Affiliated Hospitals begs to acknowledge with
thanks the following donations to the funds of
the Hospitals—
—V. Attiena (for 1909)..... \$10MESSRS. Graef & Co., the enterprising firm of
stamp dealers, send us a pretty art relief
calendar for 1909. From Messrs. W. R.
Loxley & Co. we have received a wall calendar
of the Netherlands Fire Insurance Co.A Peking dispatch states that the Ministry of
Agriculture, Works and Commerce has granted
to two merchants, named Wang and Li, the
monopoly of manufacturing and refining sugar
in the three provinces of Manchuria for ten
years.A CHINESE employe of the Rope Works, when
searched yesterday, was found to have in a
parcel eleven tins of hemp, the company's
property, six tins of rope, and four knives. He
was found guilty in the Police Court, to-day,
and given six weeks' hard labour.AN Amoy dispatch reports that the Delibera-
tive Assembly (Tz'ung-t'ung) of that port was
opened on the 23rd inst., and that two promi-
nent members of the gentry and people,
Messrs. Liu Shu-tsang and Lin Tze-chien, were
elected chairman and vice-chairman, respec-
tively, of that body.THE Prince Regent posted a Proclamation in
front of the Wamoa (the middle-gate) of the
Imperial Palace on the 1st day of the 11th
month (December 23) commencing Chinese
New Year day (January 23, 1909). To be the
commencement of the "First Year of the
Reign of H.M. Hsuen Tung of China."A FINE of \$15 was imposed on a coolie this
morning for being in unlawful possession of
property. The man, Li Kung, when arrested
had two kettles in his possession. He was origi-
nally charged with theft, but the evidence
was not strong enough to convict on that charge,
therefore, the charge was amended to one which
involved the fine given above.NG KWONG YAU, a steward on board H.M.S.
Janus, was charged this morning in the Police
Court with robbing Lieut. W. J. Newton on
various dates this month. He was accused
of stealing \$50 from the officer's cabin on the
17th, a \$10 note on the 20th and three \$10
notes on the 21st. On these charges he was
found guilty and sentenced to three months'
hard labour.THIS morning, in the Police Court, a coolie
named Chan Kwai was arraigned on the charge
of stealing two pigs from a pig-sty, at Homa-
nau, Yau-mat, on the 25th inst. It was
alleged that he had taken the pigs away from
the sty, and then slaughtered and was selling
the flesh, when he was arrested. The magis-
trate (Mr. J. P. Wood) adjourned the case for
the police to inquire into defendant's character.We are glad to find that Government realises
the extent of the malaria epidemic in Bombay
and has taken steps to investigate the epidemic,
its causes and the best means of dealing with
it. The Corporation, the Port Trust, and Im-
provement Trust are to be represented on a
Committee which will be presided over by an
Independent Government official and we may
expect that active measures, which ought to
have been adopted months ago, will now be
undertaken.—*Bombay Gazette*.THE Prince Regent has announced his in-
tention of sending Chang Yin-tang, Junior
Deputy Vice-President of the Waiwun, to
China, in the capacity of Commissioner of
International Affairs for Tibet, or, as he may
be also termed, Secretary of Foreign Affairs to
the Tibetan Government. It will be remem-
bered that Chang Yin-tang was, in 1906, the
Chinese Representative who negotiated with Sir
Lloyd Duns the Sino-Tibetan Commercial Treaty
concerning the trade of the IndianCONVICTED of having stolen two cooking pans
from 237, Wing Lok Street, yesterday, a street
coolie was given a fortnight's imprisonment in
the Police Court, to-day.IN compliance with the proposal of the Japa-
nese Government-General of Kwantung, and
after consultation with the Peking Government,
Viceroy Hsi Shih-chang of Manchuria has
authorized the export of wheat, millet and
other cereals through South Manchuria.AN unemployed shoemaker, who later gave the
name of Ng Chung Sang, was arrested on the
Canton Steamboat Company's wharf on suspicion
of theft. Ng was carrying three umbrellas
and on being asked by the policeman from
where he obtained them, the boot artist con-
fessed that he had come from Canton on board
the *Sui An* and had taken them from a pass-
enger. He was charged and sentenced to six
weeks' hard labour by Mr. J. H. Kemp, in the
Police Court, this forenoon.TO-DAY was a red-letter in the history of the
Sikhs in this Colony, being the day Gura
Goband Singh, one of their highest priests,
was born, and it was well celebrated by every
Sikh. Dressed in their best clothes they as-
sembled in the compound at headquarters,
where the band of the Rajputs discoursed
sweet music. Later in the day the procession,
numbering over a hundred, headed by a pretti-
ly decorated carriage and drawn by two
ponies, followed by the band, wended its way
towards the temple at Wong-nai-chong, where
religious ceremony was held.A LONDON correspondent, long a resident in
Tientsin, writes to us saying: "For an octo-
genarian, and one who went home for a
rest, Sir Robert Hart is displaying wonder-
ful strength and mental activity, in the
way in which he is travelling about from place
to place in Ireland and England, receiving
the highest honours and making speeches,
full of sensible ideas and useful suggestions." The
same thought has occurred to us, and we
only trust that Sir Robert may be long spared
to continue his crusade on behalf of a pro-
gressive and united China, both at home and
here, if he consents to come out again.—*China
Critics*.OWING to the report that the Netherlands Gov-
ernment has decided to allow Chinese residing
in the Dutch Colonies to naturalize themselves
as Dutch subjects, members of the Peking
Government have written to leading Chinese in
Java and Sumatra exhorting them to use their
influence with their fellow-countrymen to remain
loyal to the land of their ancestors. A good sign
that Chinese in the Dutch Colonies are still
patriotic and loyal to China is the establish-
ment of a number of schools there for the
instruction of Chinese children in the written
language of their Fatherland. Even the man-
darin dialect is being now taught in these
schools, and what is more there are now no
fewer than one hundred and twenty Chinese
schools in various towns in the Dutch
Colonies now studying in Nanking.MR. KATO, C.M.G., now on his way to Eng-
land as Japanese Ambassador, is a personal
friend of Sir Edward Grey, the present Minister
of Foreign Affairs. He has also many friends
among the English Statesmen in power as well
as among those of the Opposition, and is well
posted in English politics. He is accompa-
nied by Mrs. Kato, of whom Sir Claude
Macdonald said, at the recent
banquet of the British Society in Tokio:
"It may interest my hearers to know
that when the Royal Family of England heard
that Mr. Kato had been appointed as Japanese
Representative in London they expressed a
desire that Mrs. Kato, whom they knew and
liked so much, would accompany her husband.
Anybody who has the proud privilege of know-
ing Mrs. Kato will agree with me when I say
that she is a fitting helpmeet to her husband,
and a lady endowed with the most gracious
sweetness of character combined with a very
great deal of common-sense."

COTTON YARN PRIZE TICKETS.

A Shanghai dispatch to Japanese papers re-
ports that the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha has issued
an announcement to the effect that the issue of
cotton yarn prize tickets will be discontinued
after this month.

A "HIND" IN SIAM.

VALUABLE MANUSCRIPT UNearthed.

About a year ago an old MS. was acquired
by the Siam National Library, which on ex-
amination was found to contain the history of
Siam for a period of 53 years from the destruc-
tion of Ayudhya in 1777 up to the first years
of the reign of Phra Buddha Lot La in 1813,
says the *Bangkok Times*.
The MS. is one of peculiar interest differing
in many respects from previous records, and when
it was submitted to His Majesty the King, he
identified the book as a record kept by the
sister of King Phra Buddha Yot Fa, the first
king of the present dynasty, known as Krom
Luang Narind Devi.It was found to be an exceedingly faithful
record of those times, and His Majesty was
pleased thereupon to write explanatory notes
and a commentary on this record in which
were embodied many State papers previously
unknown, which tend to corroborate the state-
ments recorded.The MS. under the title of (Phra Rajavi-
charana has now been published in one volume
of about 730 pages and is being sold at Tcs.
15, a copy at the National Library, to which
His Majesty was graciously pleased to present
it for sale, with the comment that the net pro-
ceeds of the sale should be added to the fund
of the National Library established for pub-
lishing books of historical and literary interest.

RACING NOTES.

ARRIVAL OF PERBY GRIFINS.

It will interest your readers to learn that by
the China Merchants steamer *Chi-yuen*, which
arrived in port from the North last evening,
nine racing ponies and two polo ponies were
landed.Seven of the racers, some of them Derby
griffins, are consigned to Mr. Toog, while Mr.
Ellis were in receipt of two—his old pony, In-
dian Chief, and a Derby griffin. The polo
ponies are for Major Palmer.The animals seem to be in fine fettle. Indian
Chief looks his usual, while the Derby griffins,
as can only be expected, are high-priced 'uns,
and may be expected to be fast racers.As regards the subscription griffin, all that
can be said of them is that they are being
exercised and some have been given long
distances, over which some have come out
well, but there are one or two which, so far, I
am afraid of.My next writing and a long one will appear
after the New Year, which I hope all my
readers will spend joyfully, as will your humble
servant.

RIDING BOY.

DAYLIGHT ROBBERY.

MAN AND BOY TIED AND GAGGED AT
HUNGHOM.Loud cries of "Save life," "Robbers," were
heard coming from one of the tenements in
Bulkeley Street, at Hunghom, yesterday fore-
noon. An Indian policeman heard the distur-
bance, which seemed to grow louder every mo-
ment, and ran up behind a number of pedestrians,
who appeared eager to know what the trouble
was about. The crowd came to a halt outside
house No. 13, from where the noises came, and
the policeman, forcing his way through the
gathering mob, rushed up to the first floor.Reaching the landing he found the front door
locked from the outside. To force back the
bar was only a matter of a few seconds, and
when this was done he entered the premises,
and found the persons—a man and a lad—the
ones who had raised the alarm. The un-
happy looking pair, after pointing to pieces
of rope and rags which lay in the kit-
chen at the rear of the house and which were
collected by the policeman, were taken to the
Hunghom Police Station, where they told the
story of their adventure."I was sitting in the kitchen chopping fire-
wood at about ten o'clock," said the man. "I was
alone in the house, the others having gone out,
and the front door left open. I was chopping
for some time when on looking up suddenly I
saw a number of men—about four or five—by
my side. They seized hold of me and threw
me to the floor. Then they bound my hands
and feet and finally gagged me.""It was at this time that the lad returned home
and, running to the kitchen with the intention
of assisting his fellow lodger in cutting the
wood, he found the men holding down the
man. Before he could raise courage to help
for help, he too, was seized, gagged and bound.
The door of the house was then locked by one
of the robbers to prevent the further entry of
any others, and the house was ransacked, the
thieves taking away with them clothing and
other valuables to the tune of about \$50.
They locked the door behind them when they
left."After struggling for a while the lad succeed-
ed in releasing himself. When this was done
he untied his friend, and together they ran to
the front door to make for the open. This they
found was locked, and as there was no other
means of escape they ran to the window and
called loudly for assistance. The police hope
to make a capture as one or two of the robbers
can be recognized.

DISHABE AMONG CATTLE.

OUTBREAK AT POKFULUM.

The following letter from Mr. Adam Gibson,
the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon, was laid on
the table at a special meeting of the Sanitary
Board which was held this afternoon:—Sanitary Department,
28th December, 1908.Sir,—I have the honour to report for the in-
formation of the Board that foot and mouth
disease has appeared in Nos. 11 and 12 sheds
belonging to the Dairy Farm Company at Sir-
ssoon's Villa, Pokfulum Road.The two sheds form together one building
divided only by a partition.
The sheds contain seventeen cows and three
are infected.I beg therefore to recommend that sheds Nos.
11 and 12 be declared infected areas under
Bye-law 12 of the Importation and Inspection
of Animals Bye-laws in Schedule B of Or-
dinance 1 of 1903-1908.

I have, etc.

A. D. M. GIBSON,

Colonial Veterinary Surgeon.

The Secretary,
Sanitary Board.The sheds in question were declared infected
areas.

THE OPIUM CONFERENCE.

Two of the three Chinese Commis- sion-
ers to the International Opium Conference, Taotai
Liu Yu-lin and Mr. Tong Kai-son, are already
in Shanghai and are in charge of the arrange-
ments for the Conference. According to pre-
sent plans the Conference will hold its sittings
in the Palace Hotel, where the majority of the
foreign delegates will also stay. The *N. C. D.*
News understands that the services of Prince
Kung, whose name has been mentioned as the
 titular head of the Chinese Commission, can-
not be dispensed with in Peking, but the Chi-
nese Government will probably give an earnest
of its appreciation of the Conference's delibera-
tions by authorizing to Viceroy Tuan Fang the
task of welcoming the other Commissioners
and of opening (formally) the Conference.HOUSEBREAKING ON AN
INCREASE.

A WARNING TO HOUSEHOLDERS.

The number of cases of housebreaking which
have occurred in the Colony lately is somewhat
amazing. A police-inspector gave our repre-
sentative this morning to understand the num-
ber this year had increased far more than in re-
cent ones. The increase is due according to
that authority to the approaching Chinese New
Year and also to the increasing number of un-
employed in the Colony and those who emi-
grate daily from Canton.Yesterday there were no less than six dwell-
ing houses which were broken in by robbers
during the absence of the occupants. Most of
the things stolen were of very small value, and
in only one case did the robbers get away with
valuable exceeding \$200 in value. This was in
the coolie quarters of a house in Kennedy Road.
The cook had, it is presumed, left the place with-
out locking the door, and in his absence the
visit was paid, and on his return he found his
room in a topsy-turvy condition and a quantity
of clothing, a watch and chain, a sovereign,
attached to which was a gold butterfly, and
various other things, valued about \$50, gone.Of course, in each case the police were in-
formed, but it is only fair to remark that the
police, except in a few cases, are able to find
the thieves. This can be accounted for—that
after the robbery had been committed the
goods are taken to Canton and disposed of
and the jewellery sold to secret jewellery
shops for a mere nothing to be melted down.
The thieves, to use the inspector's own words,
are too wise nowadays to take the loot to
pawnshops, for then their capture is assured.But for the Robinson Piano Company, where
some gramophone records were stolen, and the
attempt made to enter Messrs. Dias Brothers'
premises in Wyndham Street, there have been
no entries to other European shops or dwelling
houses, and we are requested to warn house-
holders, especially the Chinese, to be careful
when leaving their houses, especially when
there is a frail lock on the door, to see that
everything is safe, "as the police cannot be
everywhere at the same time."

SUGAR IN JAPAN.

STRUGGLE BETWEEN PRODUCERS AND
REFINERS.Interest in the question of the reimburse-
ment of Customs duty on sugar is growing as
the date of the opening of the Diet approaches,
and sugar refiners in Japan are exerting them-
selves to secure a continuance of the measure.
On the other hand, says the *Osaka Jiji*, the
Formosan sugar producers, encouraged by
their success in influencing the Government
during the last session of the Diet when the
question was taken up, have begun a move-
ment for the discontinuance of the reimburse-
ment. Baron Goto, who has strongly favoured
the policy of protecting the sugar industry
in Formosa, is now in the Cabinet. Taking
advantage of this circumstance, Formosan
sugar men have appealed to the Baron, who
in turn is using his influence with the
Government. As a result, the Government
is wavering in its determination, and is now
inclined towards discontinuing the policy of
reimbursement, and in all probability a bill
for the purpose will be introduced in the Diet.
Dismayed at this turn of events, sugar refiners
in Japan, headed by the Dai Nippon Sugar
Refining Company, have opened a counter-
movement.It may be explained that Formosan sugar en-
joys a special privilege (based on no law or regu-
lation) whereby the excise imposed on No. 3
quality is equal to the ordinary rate on No. 1
Formosan sugar thus enjoying an advantage of
Y5.50 per picul. (The quantity of Formosan
sugar brought to the mainland has not exceeded
200,000 piculs per annum, and the market of
sugar refined in Japan has been little affected.
But now that the mills of the Toyo, Taiwan,
Meiji, and Ensu Sugar Refining Companies in
Formosa have opened operations it is estimated
that over 2,000,000 piculs a year of Formosa-
sugar will be imported. If the special
privilege in favour of Formosan sugar be
continued, it will be very difficult for Japa-
nese sugar refiners to cope with the For-
mosan product, while if the reimbursement of
duty on foreign crude sugar be discontinued,
it is declared that the sugar-refining industry
in Japan will collapse. The sugar refiners in
Japan, who are faced with such a serious
problem, are already suffering from over-
production, their stocks heavily congesting the
market. Usually a brisk sale of sugar is seen
in December and January, but this year is
proving an exception to the rule, the market
continuing very quiet. The opening of the
season for arrivals of new Formosan sugar is
at hand, and the sugar-refining mills in Japan
have been forced to suspend their operations
entirely in order to get rid of the stock so lar-
gely congesting the market.The *Osaka Journal* referred to points out
that a new question has arisen in connection
with the reimbursement of duty. "This is the
attempted evasion of Customs duty on Luson
sugar at Yokkaichi by the Maruda-ya, a firm
in partnership with Messrs. Abe Kobel, both
being directors of the Yokohama Sugar Re-
fining Company. This evasion of duty is de-
clared to be illegal, yet the Government has set
the example by passing No. 3 quality of For-
mosan sugar as No. 1 for the sake of protecting
Formosan sugar industry, and in this way the
evasion of tax on Formosan sugar has been
openly and officially allowed. Nothing can be
more illogical than this. There is no reason
why the Government should sanction the
evasion of tax in one case while the private
evasion of duty is made illegal. The sugar
refiners in Japan are resolved to resist the
Government and oppose the discontinuance of
the reimbursement of duty, at the same time
fighting to the utmost for the withdrawal of the
privilege accorded to Formosan sugar. It is be-
lieved in some quarters that the attempted eva-
sion of the Customs duty at Yokkaichi by the
Maruda-ya may have been a pre-arranged affair
between Mr. Abe and Maruda-ya and other
sugar refiners in Japan as the 'initial step
in the fight against the Government.'—*Japan
Chronicle*.

CANTON DAY BY DAY.

AFTERMATH OF ACCIDENT AT SEA.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

Canton, 28th December.

On the 6th August last, the steamer *Tai On*,
while on her way to Kongsong from Hong-
kong, collided with a junk belonging to the
King Wah Yik theatrical troupe at Ying Ko
Tau, with the result that eight lives were lost
on board the latter. Proceedings have now
been instituted before the British Consul at
Canton against the *Tai On* by the junk master
through the Viceroy. After inquiries made
the Viceroy was informed that the steam-
er *Tai On* is not a British vessel, but a
Chinese, owned by a man named Yu, and she
 flew the British ensign under false pre-
tences. The Viceroy therefore communicated
the matter to Admiral Li Chun, and the
latter consequently detailed the two shallow-
draft cruisers *Kiang Ta* and *Kiang Chang* to
proceed to Chu Tui Shan and seize the *Tai On*
on the 26th instant as she was coming up
on her usual trip to Kongsong. At the time the
steamer was seized, there were over a hundred
passengers on board, who were transhipped to
their destination by launch before the steamer
was brought up to Canton. Yesterday morn-
ing, the two cruisers accompanying the *Tai On*
returned to port, and on their arrival Admiral
Li Chun made a preliminary inquiry about the
Tai On's owners. After due investigations were
made by the authorities, the vessel was
released.COLLECTION OF LIKIN DUES.
The collection of Likin dues in Canton dur-
ing the last ten days of the 11th moon as re-
ported to the Viceroy by the Likin Bureau was
33,598.4.3 taels, the figures being greatly de-
creased as compared with the amount collected
on the preceding ten days.GENEROUSITY REWARDED.
On the 6th instant, an Imperial Rescript
was issued conferring upon Mr. So Sing Kai
the 4th Rank of the Imperial Court as a token
of his generosity in contributing money in aid
of the sufferers by the disastrous floods in June
last. It may be remembered that Mr. So has
contributed towards the flood relief funds the
handsome donation of \$170,000.THE NATIONAL MOURNING.
A few days ago, a rumour was current here
and published in the papers that the members
of the Council of State have proposed to im-
mortalise the Throne to apply for Imperial
sanction to allow the people to shave their
beards from the 8th day of this moon. This
rumour emboldened several people to shave on
that day. As a result the police authorities
have now issued a notification to inform the
public that the rumour has no foundation and
at the same time to warn the barbers that they
may not resume their business until further
notice.THE "FATSHAN" INCIDENT.
Despatches have been exchanged between the
Portuguese Consul at Canton and the Viceroy
in connection with the *Fatshan* incident, and
a Court is expected to sit soon to bring about
a satisfactory settlement of the case. In his
despatch to the Consul, the Viceroy stated that
he could not recognise the request made by a
foreign doctor on the body of the deceased and
he would only accept those particulars of the
examination conducted by the Nanhai Magis-
trate with the two cases where two Chinese
were killed by two foreigners in Hankow, one
in the 4th year and the other in the 8th year of
Tung Chih, as a precedent. The Viceroy
asked that the offender in this case should
be dealt with according to the Chinese-Portu-
guese Treaty, Article 57, the Court to be jointly
held by Chinese officials and the Consul, and
that no objection should be entertained to the
admission to the Court of anyone who finds it
interesting to listen to the proceedings. The
Viceroy furthermore added in his despatch
that the papers should be at liberty to report
anything that may actually take place, while
he has prohibited them to report anything that
is not true.

REMARKABLE SUICIDE.

LAD JUMPS INTO A CRATER.

Of late years a number of extraordinary
forms of suicide have been recorded. A form
of self-destruction which seems to be preferred
by students disappointed in life is jumping
into the crater of a volcano or over a waterfall.
A number of suicides have occurred in the crater
of Mount Asama, while others have taken place
in the Kegon Waterfall. Apparently Mount
Asama is losing its seductiveness for the
suicide, for we (*Japan Chronicle*) learn that
a student has just committed suicide by
throwing himself into the crater of Mount Asa-
the well-known volcano near Kumamoto. Ito
Miemon, the unfortunate young man in ques-
tion, was a 5th-year student at the Meiji
Middle School, near Kumono, and it is stated
was of great promise. His rash act is attrib-
uted to disappointment at missing the opportunity
of becoming an army officer, his age for can-
didacy having passed.AN EPOCH-MAKING
"NEWSPAPER."

Telegrams.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE.

CHIEF.

RETRENCHMENT IN ADMINISTRATION.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 28th December.

H.B. Yuan Shih-kai has telegraphed to Viceroy Young Hsi-chang to try and dispense with all superfluous officials in his province and to cut down the expenditure in respect of personal emoluments.

Upon hearing the report the expectant officials in the province have evinced much uneasiness.

RUSSIA AND CHINA.

THE BOUNDARY QUESTION.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 28th December.

The Central Government has appointed Leung Tung-in, Vice-president of the Waiwupu, as special commissioner to negotiate with Russia on the boundary question.

PEKING.

PROPOSED MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 28th December.

The Prince Regent has given directions for the establishment of a Municipal Council in Peking, the members of which will be nominated by the various provinces.

CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT.

ALLEGED INCOMPETENT COMMISSIONERS.

(By courtesy of the "Sheung Po.")

Peking, 28th December.

The Prince Regent is of opinion that Yu Sik-pui and Wang Ta-shih (ex-minister to the Court at St. James's) do not possess sufficient competency to discharge their duties as special commissioners to inquire into the subject of Constitutional Government.

The Regent contemplates their recall and proposes to send other high officials to replace them.

Prince Ching succeeded in dissuading the Prince Regent from putting into effect his proposal; the question remains in abeyance.

[Reuter's.]

Venezuela.

LONDON, 27th December.

Advices from Caracas state that Vice-President Gomez's authority is recognised as supreme and that a bloodless revolution has been consummated.

Sport.

Swansea has beaten the Australian Rugby football team by 6 to 1.

At the South African Olympic games in Johannesburg, Mr. Walker ran 100 yards in nine and two-fifths seconds. This constitutes a world's record.

YOKOHAMA DOCK COMPANY.

NEW MOORING BASIN.

In response to invitations issued by the Yokohama Dock Co., Ltd., a large number of foreign and Japanese guests assembled on the company's premises on Saturday afternoon for the opening of the new mooring basin, the construction of which has just been finished. The dimensions of the new mooring basin are: Length 480 feet, width 185 feet and depth 27 feet. The basin was begun in 1906.

A temporary platform had been erected at the head of the basin for the accommodation of the visitors (says the *Japan Herald*) and from there Mr. Asai, the President of the Company, performed the ceremony of admitting the water into the basin. Congratulatory speeches were made by Governor Sato, Mr. Miyabashi, the Mayor, and others.

An opportunity was taken by the visitors present to inspect the other new works of the company, including the new dry dock, the construction of which is now in progress.

KIDNAPPED FROM HOME.

EXCITING NARRATIVE OF TWO BOYS.

A rather exciting story was told by a thirteen-year-old boy in the Police Court today, when a woman, by name Chan Kin, appeared before Mr. J. H. Kempster, charged with kidnapping two boys from Hongkong on the 2nd instant and selling them outside the Colony. One of the boys—the elder one—escaped from his imprisonment and came back to Hongkong, recognising his abductor in the street some days later which resulted in her arrest. The other returned to Hongkong two days ago, after experiencing some hardships while working for his purchaser.

The story as told by the boy (Ip Ngau Chai) was to the effect that prior to the day he was lured from his home he lived with his father—a coolie employed in the Naval Yard. On the 2nd December, he went out, after having breakfast, for a walk with his brother, Wan Yau. Both boys wandered to the Chinese Recreation Ground, in Hollywood Road, where they "watched things." There they met the defendant, who spoke to them and asked them if they wanted work. The boys answered together that they did. They accompanied the woman to a house in Third Street, where they were locked in a room with three other boys, and ordered not to try to leave the room. After breakfast on the following morning, the two brothers were taken on board a steam launch bound for Sam-chung, where they were put up in the Shiu Fung Cheung boarding-house, and on the next morning they were taken to the Tung Lap Pak Foo village, near the Sin On district. There they were handed over to a strange woman, who sent them out to work on the hillside. "I complained," said Ip Ngau Chai, "that the work of chopping trees was too hard and that I wanted something easier." Some days later his elder brother disappeared, and long after that he met a man on the hillside while cutting grass and having told his story was brought back to his father.

Chan Kin (the defendant) said that she lived in 51, Third Street, with another woman. On the 2nd December while she and the other woman were on their way to the Shau-ki-wan Theatre, Ip Po (her companion) told her that there were two boys who wanted to be adopted. She agreed with the idea, and about eleven o'clock one night a man brought the two boys to her house. When they arrived she was washing clothes in the kitchen, but she heard a whispering going on between the man and Ip Po. After putting the clothes out to dry she entered and discovered to her surprise that the man who brought the boys to the house was no other than their father! She then addressed the elder boy, asking him his surname. He replied, Wan. She asked him if he had a father or mother. He said, No, but that he had a sister, who had been sold by his mother as a slave. She asked him further where was his native place, and he replied, Samshui. She interrogated why a big boy like him wanted to be adopted. He stated that he wanted house work as his father's house at Samshui had been destroyed by the floods. The younger boy, she continued, gave the same replies to her questions. Then she went away. Next day Ip Po asked her to take the boys to Samshui. Defendant refused, saying that she did not know where that was. Ip Po pressed her by saying that when her husband was away, and the wife ill, didn't I look after you. She agreed to pay defendant handsomely for her pains, and she and Ip Po took the boys on board the *Kam On*, and they went to Samshui.

At this stage the hearing was adjourned, bail being refused.

ACCIDENT TO A TORPEDO-BOAT.

The torpedo-boat *Kiji*, which has just been repaired at Yokosuka, met with an accident in the course of a speed trial on the 17th instant in Tokyo Bay. A boiler joint gave way, and the steam poured forth in such volume that one man was scalded to death, three others receiving injuries, one of a serious nature. The torpedo-boat was disabled and was towed to Yokohama by a steamer belonging to the Tokyo Bay Steamship Company.

THE FORMOSA ABORIGINES.

PROGRESS OF REPRESSIVE MEASURE.

A telegram from the Governor-General of Formosa dated the 17th instant says:—"Eight groups of aborigines belonging to the Kakio tribe, in the district under the jurisdiction of Giran prefecture, have been blockaded for many years, and have at length had their supply of salt cut off. Pressed by the advance of the defence line of Taiwan since April last, the difficulties of the tribe were aggravated, and on several occasions they offered to surrender. But the authorities, doubting their sincerity, apparently, have ordered them to surrender the human heads taken as trophies as a token of their willingness to surrender. On the 16th instant 600 of the aborigines, including the chiefs, came down the hill to the guard station at Nao-o and surrendered 20 rifles and 151 skulls as ordered. Their offer to surrender was provisionally accepted after a promise had been received that they would no longer resist."

A Taipei dispatch to the *Asahi* states that the force sent to suppress the revolt at Kwan-ko, reinforced by 800 of the subdued aborigines, attacked the Kakio tribe and burnt the houses of the Shichikyakusu tribe during the night of the 16th, capturing 3,000 lb of rice and millet, and 30 fresh human heads. The chief of the tribe has been captured at Kwan-ko. The reinforcements of troops sent from Taipei arrived at Kwan-ko on the 17th and those sent from Taiwan were expected to arrive on the 18th. It has been arranged to accomplish the suppression of the revolting tribe in one action upon the arrival of the whole of the troops sent.

(Japan Chronicle)

SMALL FERT LADY'S PREDICAMENT.

ALLEGED TO HAVE PURCHASED STOLEN PEARLS.

The trial of Li Hing Toong, a silversmith, of 26, Queen's Road Central, Leung Luk, a small-fert woman, residing at 26 of the same road, who are accused of receiving stolen goods, to wit, ten pearls, valued at \$1,000, which were alleged to have been stolen by a servant girl (under arrest) who was formerly in the employ of a family at 26, Stanton Street, and supposed to have been sold to them, was mentioned at the Magistrate's this afternoon.

Mr. J. H. Kempster presided. Mr. C. F. Dixon (of Messrs. Hastings and Hastings) prosecuted. Mr. E. J. Grist (of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) appeared for the defence.

When proceedings opened, Mr. Dixon said that as the case against the servant girl had been remanded to next week he suggested that this case, too, should be adjourned to the same time when both cases could be taken together as the evidence in both cases was the same.

The Court—Have you any objection to the cases being taken together?

Mr. Grist—No; I think it will be convenient. The case was remanded until this day week. Bail was allowed in the sum of \$1,500 each.

THE JAPANESE BUDGET.

On the morning of December 18 Marquis Katsuma, Premier and Financial Minister of Japan, communicated the substance of the Budget for the next fiscal year to the leading members of the House of Peers. The same afternoon the Premier received the leading members of the House of Representatives and made known to them the principal details of the forthcoming Budget. Questions, on both occasions, were answered by Mr. Wakatsuki, Vice-Minister of Finance. The main details of the Budget, as communicated to the members of both Houses, are as follows:

"In drawing up the Budget for the next fiscal year, the Government made efforts to maintain a balance between the revenue and expenditure, to strengthen the foundations of the national finance, to increase the Empire's financial credit, and to adjust the general financial position of the country. With these purposes in view, it arrived at the following decisions:—

- 1.—The fixed expenditure shall be met out of the fixed revenue. The expenditure which used to be defrayed from loans shall be met from the ordinary revenue. With the exception of the Formosan Industrial Loan, which is of a special nature, no new loans shall be floated for the time being.
- 2.—The general expenditure shall be curtailed as much as possible, and no new demands except those which are unavoidable shall be made. Even the expenditure on enterprises which have already been sanctioned shall be largely curtailed.
- 3.—The enterprises already sanctioned shall be kept within limits compatible with the national financial capacity. Consequently the period for the completion of the work and the amount of the instalments of expenditure shall be altered, the actual progress of the works being taken into consideration.
- 4.—The sum annually allotted to the sinking fund shall be increased to at least Yen 40,000,000 in order to maintain the credit of Japanese Bonds, raise their prices, and protect the interests of their holders, thus exerting a good effect on financial circles in general.
- 5.—With a view to promoting the success of the railway administration, an independent Railway Account distinct from the general accounts, shall be established."

These decisions were acted upon in the preparation of the Budget, the principal features of which are given below:

REVENUE.	
Ordinary	47,566,970
Extraordinary	45,547,825
(Of the above Yen 10,751,995 is the surplus from the current fiscal year.)	
Total	516,200,795
EXPENDITURE.	
Ordinary	400,912,102
Extraordinary	115,288,693
Total	516,200,795

It will be noted that the revenue and expenditure balance each other. The estimated ordinary revenue for the next fiscal year—which begins in April, 1909—is ¥3,981,471 in excess of that for the current year, the principal increases being under the heads of taxes (+ Yen 3,027,340), Government Works and Property (+ Yen 6,493,241) and Telegraph and Telephone Services (+ Yen 7,538,781). Forestry and the Salt monopoly alone show a decrease. Extraordinary revenue which is estimated Yen 98,538,877 less than in 1908-9 shows a decrease of Yen 65,075,814 in money brought forward from current fiscal year and also a decrease of Yen 18,971,116 in loan flotation. Two items only—the sale of Government property (+ Yen 8,454,934) and sums to be recovered on advances made in connection with the Formosan Industrial Loan (+ Yen 100,000) show an increase. The principal increases in ordinary expenditure are to be in the War Department (+ Yen 2,281,693), the Finance Department (+ Yen 1,930,232) and Communications (+ Yen 1,433,827). The War Department (+ Yen 2,766,701), the Finance Department (+ Yen 7,090,335) and the Navy (+ Yen 9,445,792) are the principal sufferers by the decrease in extraordinary expenditure. The programme mapped out by the Katsuma Cabinet postulates public works to the extent of Yen 168,000,000. Work thus postponed is to be subsequently recovered by a liquidation of annual instalments. No public bonds will be issued in 1909-10 except about Yen 1,000,000 for Formosan Public Works, and public bonds to the amount of Yen 20,800,000 are to be redeemed.

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The *Hirano Maru* is a new N. Y. K. twin screw steamer *Hirano Maru*, one of six sister ships built and building by the Kawasaki Shipbuilding Co. of Kobe and the Mitsui Bishi Dockyard, Nagasaki, Hongkong residents have an opportunity of seeing a most up to date passenger steamer. The new vessel, which was launched at Nagasaki on the 21st April, is commanded by Captain H. Fraser, one of the oldest commanders in the Company's service, and he has every reason to be proud of his handsome craft, which is designed for the European service, and is now making her maiden voyage. The vessel has been built in accordance with the Imperial Japanese Government shipbuilding encouragement law and is classed as 100 A. 1 at Lloyd's, and is modelled on modern principles with every convenience necessary for a first class passenger liner. The general comfort of passengers has been kept in view throughout and leaves nothing to be desired. There is accommodation for fifty-eight first class, twenty-eight second class, twelve special and one hundred and forty steerage passengers, while there is also special accommodation for twenty-five first class and several third class passengers. All the cabins are neatly and costly fitted up, and the decorations and fittings are of the latest design and of a first class nature. The saloon is a splendid apartment and is well lighted and ventilated. The smoking room, social hall, drawing room, music room, barber's shop, dark room for amateur photographers, etc., are all that could be wished for, and in addition there is a fully equipped surgery where all cases of sickness can be treated. The laundry, galleys, pantries, bakery, etc., are models. The lavatories and baths, showers, etc., are also a feature of the vessel. She is fully supplied with fire fighting appliances, life boats, rafts, belts, etc., and the latest designs of navigating instruments are carried. The cargo space is ample and for the handling of heavy weights she has four large derricks and cranes, one of which is capable of lifting forty tons. The following are the dimensions of the vessel:—Length 482 feet 9 inches; moulded, 465 feet; breadth, 56 feet; depth, 34 feet 6 inches; tonnage gross, 8,770 tons; horse power, 7,300; speed sixteen knots. She has three decks and her propelling machinery is of the latest and best description. She is built entirely of steel and is lighted throughout with electric lights. The *Hirano Maru* will leave here on her European voyage on Christmas day with a large passenger and cargo list.

SHANGHAI SENSATION.

FLOOR AGAIN.

The drama which has been enacted within the last few weeks in Shanghai in which Paul Floor has taken the principal part all but developed into a tragedy yesterday; reports the *Shanghai Mercury* of 24th inst. Thrice tried by jury and twice convicted, the second time receiving one of the severest sentences pronounced on a foreigner locally for a long time, Floor seemed to have exhausted the usual nine days' wonder, and after his escape and recapture was scarcely likely to give Shanghai anything more to talk about. Yesterday, however, he added to the sensations connected with his name by making a determined attempt to commit suicide, unsuccessful only through the vigilance of those in charge of the British Gaol. Floor was suffering from an injury to one of his legs, and the bandage which covered the sore gave him the means whereby he almost took his own life. The warders had been keeping a strict watch upon the prisoner and between their visits, Floor evidently had unwound the bandage, and twisting it round his neck suspended himself from the bars of the cell window. In this as in the rest of his doings recently the fates were against him, and though he hung a considerable time the gaolers were keeping too close a watch and before life was extinct he had paid another visit to the cell. Floor was immediately cut down, and in view of his condition, which seemed precarious, medical assistance was summoned. The efforts to restore animation were successful, and Floor is now quite restored to health. In view of the length of his sentence it is not probable that he may have to go to Hongkong.

PRAISE TO THE POLICE.

In connection with the recent trial and conviction of Floor on the charge of arson, in which both Detective-Inspector McDowell and Detective-Sergeant Vaughan had many difficulties to contend with in gathering evidence, Mr. F. S. A. Bourne, Acting Judge of H.B.M.'s Supreme Court, appreciated the work of the two officers to such an extent that he has addressed a letter to Lt. Col. C. D. Bruce, Capt. Supt. of the S.M. police, in which he highly commends the work done by the detectives. He goes on to say that he has been very pleased at the efficient manner in which the difficult train of evidence in the Floor arson case was worked out by Det. Inspector McDowell and Det. Sgt. Vaughan of the detective department of the S.M.P. He was also very pleased at the clever manner in which the officers concerned performed their difficult duty which was done with great discretion and efficiency.

NEW JAPANESE LINER.

S.S. "HIRANO MARU" IN PORT.

With the arrival here yesterday of the new N. Y. K. twin screw steamer *Hirano Maru*, one of six sister ships built and building by the Kawasaki Shipbuilding Co. of Kobe and the Mitsui Bishi Dockyard, Nagasaki, Hongkong residents have an opportunity of seeing a most up to date passenger steamer. The new vessel, which was launched at Nagasaki on the 21st April, is commanded by Captain H. Fraser, one of the oldest commanders in the Company's service, and he has every reason to be proud of his handsome craft, which is designed for the European service, and is now making her maiden voyage. The vessel has been built in accordance with the Imperial Japanese Government shipbuilding encouragement law and is classed as 100 A. 1 at Lloyd's, and is modelled on modern principles with every convenience necessary for a first class passenger liner. The general comfort of passengers has been kept in view throughout and leaves nothing to be desired. There is accommodation for fifty-eight first class, twenty-eight second class, twelve special and one hundred and forty steerage passengers, while there is also special accommodation for twenty-five first class and several third class passengers. All the cabins are neatly and costly fitted up, and the decorations and fittings are of the latest design and of a first class nature. The saloon is a splendid apartment and is well lighted and ventilated. The smoking room, social hall, drawing room, music room, barber's shop, dark room for amateur photographers, etc., are all that could be wished for, and in addition there is a fully equipped surgery where all cases of sickness can be treated. The laundry, galleys, pantries, bakery, etc., are models. The lavatories and baths, showers, etc., are also a feature of the vessel. She is fully supplied with fire fighting appliances, life boats, rafts, belts, etc., and the latest designs of navigating instruments are carried. The cargo space is ample and for the handling of heavy weights she has four large derricks and cranes, one of which is capable of lifting forty tons. The following are the dimensions of the vessel:—Length 482 feet 9 inches; moulded, 465 feet; breadth, 56 feet; depth, 34 feet 6 inches; tonnage gross, 8,770 tons; horse power, 7,300; speed sixteen knots. She has three decks and her propelling machinery is of the latest and best description. She is built entirely of steel and is lighted throughout with electric lights. The *Hirano Maru* will leave here on her European voyage on Christmas day with a large passenger and cargo list.

CASTAWAYS.

The *Batoum*, Capt. Stewart, brought into Singapore last week seven castaways, picked up off Beleg Salangor (One Faibom Bank). Their story is that six men and two children started from Assam, daily in a native prahu and were captured in a squall. They succeeded, all but one man, who was drowned, in getting on a derelict Chinese ketch, and were then picked up by the *Batoum* and brought on to Pulau Batoum. A collection by the officers and crew made sufficient to give them \$5 each, with which to get back to their country and face the world again.

Today's Advertisements.

THE GREAT NORTHERN TELEGRAPH COMPANY, LIMITED.

HONGKONG STATION.

NOTICE.

CURRENCY CHARGES ON TELEGRAMS.

SENDERS of Telegrams are hereby notified that from the 1st January, 1909, until further notice the CHARGES OF TELEGRAMS will be collected at the rate of DOLLARS 0.48 to equal FRANC 1.00.

OLAF NIELSEN.

Superintendent.

Hongkong, 29th December, 1908. [1119]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by

PUBLIC AUCTION,

FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED, TO-MORROW (WEDNESDAY), the 30th December, 1908, at 2.30 P.M., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Voeux Road, corner of Ice House Street,

A RARE COLLECTION OF FINEST JAPANESE HUMAN WORKED PLANTS IN POTS,

Comprising:— FIVE LEAFY PINE TREE, JAPANESE CYPRESSES, AZALAS, PLUM TREES, SAGO PALMS, BAMBOOS AND CEDARS, ALSO

A quantity of JAPANESE CURIOS. TERMS:—As usual. Such an opportunity of acquiring beautiful Japanese plants seldom occurs.

HUGHES & HOUGH,

Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 29th December, 1908. [1116]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by

PUBLIC AUCTION,

FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED, ON THURSDAY, the 31st December, 1908, at 11 A.M., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Voeux Road, corner of Ice House Street,

SUNDRY HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, Comprising:—

Double and Single IRON BEDSTEADS and BEDDING, MARBLE-TOP WASHSTANDS, LADY'S DESK, TEAKWOOD WARDROBES with BEVELLED GLASS, CARPETS, RUGS, PICTURES, GLASS, AND CROCKERY WARE, &c., &c., &c.

ALSO 2 RIFLES AND AMMUNITIONS and a quantity of BOOKS. TERMS:—As usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH,

Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 29th December, 1908. [1121]

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship

"CATHERINE APCAR."

Having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods will be delivered from alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the Vessel will be landed at once, at Consignees' risk and expense.

Cargo remaining on board after 4 P.M. of the 31st instant, will be landed at Consignees' risk and expense.

Consignees of Cargo from SINGAPORE and PENANG are requested to take IMMEDIATE DELIVERY of their Goods from alongside, such Cargo impeding the discharge of the vessel will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the undersigned.

DAVID SASSOON & CO., LIMITED,

Agents.

Hongkong, 29th December, 1908. [1120]

THE KEYSTONE OF CHINA.

JAPANESE CORDIALITY.

The *Tokyo Asahi* is jubilant over the improvement of relations between China and Japan by the appointment of a popular Minister to Peking, and in consequence of the spontaneous expression of sympathy for China's national calamity and anxiety for her national welfare in the disturbing moments. The paper has never seen reason for the discord between the two Powers resulting to the benefit of Japan. On the contrary, their relations have steadily improved since Japan's disinterested offices at the time of the Boxer trouble, until the conclusion of the Anglo-Japanese alliance and the formation of an agreement with Russia for the maintenance of the status quo in Manchuria have been effected and the peace in the Far East and on the Pacific has been assured. The paper would improve and cement further this cordial relation by the abolition of import tax on rice, as China shows signs of willingness of abolishing the levy on exported rice. H.E. Minister Chang Chih-tang who as Viceroy showed favour to the exportation of Hsuan rice should be expected to favour, as the central figure in the Peking Ministry, the abolition of that irrational law that prohibits an agricultural nation from exporting its agricultural product. The paper would fain see the abolition of import tax on cocoons as well, but leaving that to a future occasion it is anxious to see this tax abolished along with the "three bad taxes" of the war time origin. The matter cannot be wrongly objected to by the land-owners of this country, as they are enjoying at present an easy time, and it will certainly be welcomed by the rest of the people as the levy has been unfavourably affecting their condition of living. The reform will be the immediate opening for economic community of interest between the two Powers which should now form the basis of their closer unity.

Intimations.

NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS.

IN accordance with Government Notification No. 920 the EXCHANGE BANKS will be CLOSED for the Transaction of PUBLIC BUSINESS on FRIDAY and SATURDAY, 1st and 2nd January, 1909.

Hongkong, 29th December, 1908. [1114]

THE IMPERIAL COLONIAL CLUB.

THE above Club is formed chiefly for COLONIAL and OVER-SEAS MEMBERS; it is situated at No. 84, Piccadilly (the centre of Clubland), opposite the Green Park.

The Club has a Bridge Section, Reception, Dining, Billiard Room, Smoking Lounge, Reading Room and Library.

Ladies are eligible as Members.

Entrance Fee, Five Guineas; Annual Subscription, Five Guineas.

Further particulars from

THE ORGANISING SECRETARY,

84, Piccadilly, W.

London, 19th August, 1908. [1766]

COLD STORAGE.

THE HONGKONG ICE COMPANY, LTD., have now 40,000 Cubic feet of COLD STORAGE available at EAST POINT. Stores will be Open at 10 A.M. and 4 P.M. daily, Sunday excepted, to receive and deliver perishable goods.

WM. FARLANE,

Manager.

Hongkong, and Inn, 1908. [118]

PEAK TRAMWAYS COMPANY, LIMITED.

TIME TABLE.

WEEK DAYS.

7.00 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
9.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. Every 15 minutes.
11.30 a.m. to 12.45 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
12.45 p.m. to 1.15 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
1.15 p.m. to 1.45 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
1.45 p.m. to 2.15 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
2.15 p.m. to 3.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
3.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
5.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.

NIGHT CARS.

5.45 p.m. and 9 p.m. 9.45 p.m. to 11.5 p.m. every half hour.

SUNDAYS.

8.00 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. Every 15 minutes.
9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. Every 15 minutes.
10.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. Every 15 minutes.
11.00 a.m. to 11.45 a.m. Every 15 minutes.
11.45 a.m. to 12.00 noon. Every 15 minutes.
12.00 noon to 1.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
1.00

